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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/807,658	03/24/2004	Thomas R. Helma	047717/279166	3907
826	7590	06/06/2006	EXAMINER FEGGINS, KRISTAL J	
ALSTON & BIRD LLP BANK OF AMERICA PLAZA 101 SOUTH TRYON STREET, SUITE 4000 CHARLOTTE, NC 28280-4000			ART UNIT 2861	PAPER NUMBER

DATE MAILED: 06/06/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/807,658	Applicant(s) HELMA ET AL.	
	Examiner K. Feggins	Art Unit 2861	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-65 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 13,25-49 and 57-65 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 11,15-17,19 and 50 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 10, 12, 14, 18-24, 51-56 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 2, 4-6, 9, 11, 15-16, 50 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Lindsay (US 4,009,047).

Lindsay disclose the following:

- * regarding claims 1, 16 & 50, a card-cleaning assembly for a printer (Abstract),
- * a card-cleaning means comprising a card-cleaning roller mounted to a frame of the printer, and adjacent to a surface of the card so that the roller collects debris from the card surface (col 5, line 64- col 7, line 26, col 8, lines 28-68,);
- * a cleaning means for removing debris from the card-cleaning roller, the cleaning means (col 5, line 64- col 7, line 26, col 9, lines 18-35);
- * (i) a pivot arm pivotably attached to the printer frame (col 8, lines 28-68);
- * (ii) an adhesive/tacky/ tape cartridge mounted to the pivot arm, the tape cartridge including a supply/98/ tape core and a take up/99/ tape core (col 9, lines 18-65)
- * wherein a force exerted on the pivot arm causes the arm to pivot so that the tape cartridge and cleaning roller engage each other, and the tape removes debris from

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the roller as the tape is peeled from the supply tape core to the take up tape core and the cleaning roller rotates (col 11, lines 5-68).

* regarding claim 2, wherein the cleaning roller is made from a rubber material (col 8, lines 27-45).

* regarding claim 4, wherein a motor means causes the pivot arm to pivot so that the tape cartridge and cleaning roller engage each other (col 8, line 28-col 11, line 68, col 10, line 31-col 11, line 68).

* regarding claim 5, wherein the pivot arm comprises a motor gear and shaft for driving the arm (col 8, line 28-col 11, line 68, col 10, line 31- col 11, line 68).

* regarding claim 6, wherein the pivot arm further comprises an idler gear having a one way clutch (col 8, line 28-col 11, line 68, col 10, line 31- col 11, line 68).

* regarding claim 9, wherein the peeling of the tape exerts a force on the cleaning roller, thereby causing the tape to maintain continuous contact with the cleaning roller as the roller rotates (col 8, line 28-col 11, line 68, col 11, lines 5-68).

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* regarding claim 11, further comprising a rotatable slotted wheel attached to the cleaning roller and an optical sensor for detecting movement of the slots on the wheel (col 8, line 28-col 11, line 68),

* regarding claim 15, further comprising a lamination station for laminating a film to a surface of the card (col 8, line 28-col 11, line 68, col 9, lines 37--65),

* regarding claim 16, a card-cleaning means comprising a translating, plate member mounted to a frame of the printer, said plated member being capable of contacting a surface of the card so that the plate collects debris from the card surface; wherein a force exerted on the pivot arm causes the arm to pivot so that the tape cartridge and plate member engage each other, and the tape removes debris from the plate as the tape is peeled from the supply tape core to the take up tape core and the plate member translates (col 8, line 28-col 11, line 68).

* further regarding claim 50, a spindle connected to said frame for receiving a cleaning media located on a core wherein the media includes at least one adhesive surface for contacting said roller to thereby remove debris from the roller, wherein said spindle comprises one or more splines, whereby said spline facilitates connection of said spindle to the core of the cleaning media (col 8, line 28-col 11, line 68).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 3, 7, 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lindsay in view of LaManna (US 5685043).

Lindsay disclose all of the claimed limitations except for the following:

* regarding claim 3, further comprising spring biasing means connected to said card-cleaning roller to urge said card cleaning roller against the surface of the card.

* regarding claim 8, wherein the upper core of the tape cartridge comprises a spline for mounting the tape cartridge to the pivot arm.

* regarding claim 7, wherein the pivot arm further comprises a drive gear spline.

LaManna et al. disclose the following:

* regarding claim 3, further comprising spring biasing means connected to said card-cleaning roller to urge said card cleaning roller against the surface of the card (fig 2, col 4, lines 15-67) for the purpose of removing loose particles.

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regarding claim 8, a spline for mounting the tape cartridge to the pivot arm (fig 2, col 4, lines 115-67) for the purpose of removing loose particles.

* regarding claim 8, a spline for mounting the tape cartridge to the pivot arm (fig 2, col 4, lines 15-67) for the purpose of removing loose particles.

* regarding claim 7, wherein the pivot arm further comprises a drive gear spline (fig 2, col 4, lines 15-67) for the purpose of removing loose particles.

It would have been obvious at the time of the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to utilize spring biasing means connected to said card-cleaning roller to urge said card cleaning roller against the surface of the card; a spline for mounting the tape cartridge to the pivot arm; and a drive gear spline, taught by LaManna et al. into Lindsay for the purpose of removing loose particles.

Claim 17 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lindsay in view Meier et al. (2002/0106229 A1).

Lindsay disclose the following:

* regarding claim 17, a card-cleaning assembly for a printer (Abstract);
* a roller mounted to a frame of the printer and adjacent to a surface of a card in the printer such that the roller collects debris from the surface of the card; a pivot arm connected to the frame of the printer; a supply tape core and a take up tape core

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containing a media having at least one adhesive surface, wherein at least one of said supply tape core and said take up tape core is coupled to said pivot arm (col 8, line 28-col 11, line 68).

Meier et al. disclose the following:

* means for applying a force to said pivot arm, wherein the force exerted on the pivot arm causes the arm to pivot toward said roller so that the media engages said roller to thereby remove debris from the roller (col4, lines 22-41) for the purpose of removing debris.

It would have been obvious at the time of the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to utilize means for applying a force to said pivot arm, wherein the force exerted on the pivot arm causes the arm to pivot toward said roller so that the media engages said roller to thereby remove debris from the roller, taught by Meier into Lindsay for the purpose of removing debris.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 13, 25-49, 57-65 are allowed.

Claims 10, 12, 14, 18-24, 51-56 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Communication With The USPTO

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to K. Feggins whose telephone number is 571-272-2254. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Patel Vip can be reached on 571-272-2458. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

 5/04
K. FEGGINS
PRIMARY EXAMINER